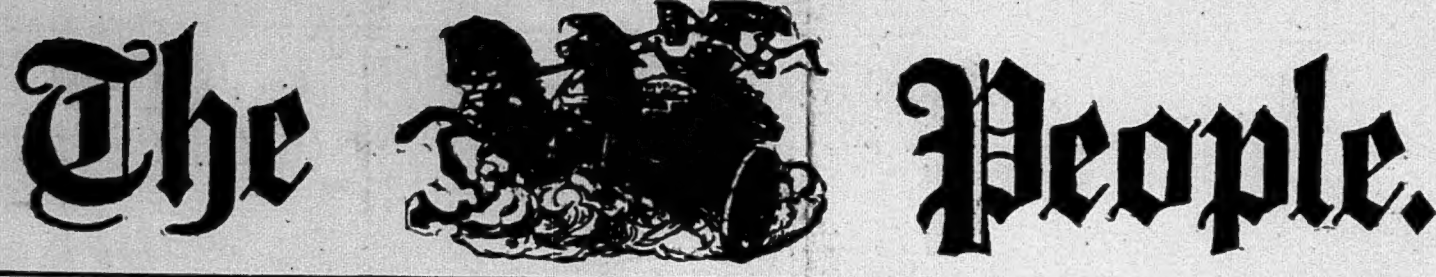


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ON TOP, AGAIN!

Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance Throws Fakir.

Fall River's Labor Misdemeanor, Whitehead is Forced to Appear in Debate. Planned Against the Wall, He "Ducks Under."

FALL RIVER, Mass., Feb. 27.—The 11th day of February 1900 will not soon be forgotten by the "Fraternity of Labor Fakirs" in this town. On that memorable day the mighty hammer of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, wielded by Comrade Charles Kroll, of D. A. 17, S. T. & L. A., Providence, R. I., came down with crushing force on the antiquated citadel of pure and simple unionism, nearly transforming it into a vast heap of ruins threatening to bury every fakir in the city under it.

Mr. James Whitehead, secretary of the Weavers' Association and Textile Council, had been compelled to accept Comrade Kroll's challenge to debate in Mulcapiers' Hall on the above-mentioned date, in order to save his reputation. Mr. Whitehead appeared at the appointment of time, to the great surprise of many of the comrades, who suspected that he would again "catch a train," as he had done on a previous occasion, under similar circumstances. The large hall was crowded to its utmost capacity, at least one hundred persons being obliged to stand. It was a seldom-equalled opportunity for our comrades to explain the class-consciousness sound principles and tactics of the Alliance to such an immense audience of union men, and thereby crush the fakirs. To Kroll's credit, he said, that he proved himself equal to the occasion. The crowd was kept listening with the closest attention for nearly two hours.

The meeting opened at 3 p. m., with Comrade James P. Ried, of Oneville, R. I., as chairman. He read the challenge issued by Kroll to Whitehead and informed the audience that it would not be a free discussion meeting but exclusively a debate between Kroll and Whitehead. Whitehead was then invited to a seat on the platform, and Kroll was introduced to open up.

The S. T. & L. A. Opens.

Kroll opened, saying that he did not undertake the debate out of any personal sentiments against Whitehead, whom he had seen but once before in his life; nor with the intention to "wreck the labor unions." His purpose was simply to point out the fact that the existing unions were based on fundamentally wrong principles, and that the methods and tactics employed were not in harmony with the progressiveness of the world had ever seen, the great majority of the people, the producers of all wealth, found themselves in poverty, want and dependence, actually worse off than were their ancestors a hundred years ago. An organization utterly lacking in progressive spirit, he argued, was but a stumbling-block in the way of progress, and retarded the emancipation of the working-class.

The imbecile assertion that "the interests of employer and employee are identical" was then submitted to scrutiny by Kroll, and he demonstrated that it was ever to the interest of the employer to increase his profits by reducing the wages of his employees, and vice versa. If the assertion were true, there would be no need of labor organizations; the necessity of their existence gave the lie to the fakir, who prated about such "identity of interests." After quoting from the constitution of the Weavers' Union to the effect that there was a "bond of sympathy between employer and employee," Kroll proceeded to recite the numerous instances in the history of Labor's struggle that proved conclusively that he capitalist class had never shown any sympathy for the working-class, but had taken advantage of every opportunity to increase the exploitation of the workers, regardless of how much suffering and sorrow it had caused. The cotton manufacturers, for instance, did not hesitate to introduce the Northrop loom, despite the fact that it threw thousands of weavers out of employment and reduced the wages of those employed; on the contrary, that was the inducement. "Even when the manufacturers increase your wages a few cents voluntarily," said he, "they do not do so because they have any sympathy for you, but solely because they fear that you might compel them to grant a far greater increase."

Kroll then directed his blows against the cry of the fakir, "No politics in labor unions," showing the importance to the working-class of getting and maintaining political supremacy; the capitalists used the political power to defeat every great strike that was inaugurated. Pinkerton thugs, State militia and Federal troops had been used by the capitalists at Haverhill, Hazleton, Idaho, etc., to break the strikes by killing and maiming innocent men; and on many occasions within recent years injunctions had been issued by Republican and Democratic judges forbidding the "free" American workmen to peacefully assemble, and even to approach the scabs who had taken their places during a strike. Kroll clinched the point with these emphatic words: "I charge any laborer who runs for office on a Republican or Democratic ticket with being a traitor to the working-class (loud applause). Your labor leaders are used as lack on the books of politicians, who try to catch the workmen's votes for the capitalist parties. One of your representatives stated at a meeting that he had been caught for a sucker by McKinley and in 1890 that same man ran on a Republican ticket for Representative. He was a sucker for a sucker, and a sucker was a decoy duck." (Long and loud applause.)

"The labor leader" claims that political discussions at union meetings would be the ruin of the union. Really, it is these leaders themselves who ruin the unions by their incessant

meddling in the politics of the capitalist parties. In the union and out of it, they labor constantly to get the members to vote for them or for some other tool of the capitalist class. The result is, for instance, that many Democrats never join the union because the officials use their influence to defeat the Democratic party. (Applause.) If your accounts are examined, you will find that not one single cent has been expended on literature that might have enlightened you on your duties and your rights; instead of that, vast sums have been paid in salaries to so-called leaders, who are going around the country "catching trains."

The great applause given the comrade at the conclusion of his speech was a demonstration; it proved that he had not spoken in vain.

Pure and Simple Labor Fakirism on the Pillory.

Mr. Whitehead was then introduced. Ominously and significantly enough, he was coolly received by his former admirers. He well knew the futility of attempting to refute Kroll's logical arguments; he made no attempt in that direction. What he did attempt was a series of doges, the first being a statement that he had not come with the intention to debate Socialism, otherwise he would have been prepared. "I came here," said he, "expecting to hear charges brought against me; he has not preferred any; he cannot convict an innocent man. I have been a candidate for office on the Republican ticket, but there are just as honest men in the Republican party as in the Socialist Labor Party. I am just as good a Socialist as any man in the Socialist Labor Party or in the Alliance. If any man believes that I have done anything dishonest, let him come out and say so." And he sat down amid universal astonishment at his having proved so "easy."

Kroll then again took the floor for a few minutes; he reiterated the charges he had made; and enlarged upon their nature.

Whitehead again got on his feet and repeated that he had been no charges, and again sat down, being a fakir, a decoy duck and a tool to the working-class, and a tool in the hands of the manufacturers, was, in his opinion, no charges at all.

The other labor fakirs in the hall were by this time in an uncontrollable rage. Several of them jumped to their feet shouting that the labor leaders of Fall River had been assailed, and demanding the right to defend themselves. The chairman rapped for order and said that it was made distinctly clear and understood at the opening of the meeting that no interference from either side would be allowed. In spite of this, one of the fakirs began to speak; that created an uproar in the audience. A number of men told him to continue, while others protested vehemently. It was a critical moment, but Chairman Ried was master of the situation. He restored order, and the meeting adjourned in an orderly manner.

A Seat Captured.

M'KEESPORT, Feb. 25.—At the election held here Tuesday, Feb. 20, Comrade Andrew Hunter, for Mayor, received 98 votes. Comrade Allan J. Nelson, for Common Council, Ninth Ward, received 61 votes, electing the latter. This is the first vote in the Council captured by the Socialist Labor Party in the State of Pennsylvania. WM. M. KERR.

Cleveland, O.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 20.—The S. L. P. nomination papers, which were filed on Feb. 16, with 1,700 signatures, put in the field a full municipal ticket, as follows:

School Director, Dr. John J. Koller; School Commissioners, Mrs. Paul Dinger, Brower G. Margeson and Mrs. Lillian Christian; Justices of the Peace, James Rugg and Joseph C. Davey; Clerk of Police Court, Frederick Brown; Constables, John Heidenreich, Andrew Mandel, Frank Byer, George Ellman, Herman Dersch, W. D. Keim; Members of City Council: Second District, Fred Herz; Third District, W. F. Steel; Fourth District, John D. Goerke; Sixth District, M. R. O'Furey; Seventh District, Henry Forster; Eighth District, Laidore Kromann; Ninth District, Joseph Reiman; Tenth District, Joseph Gable; Eleventh District, John Kircher.

The campaign will now begin in earnest and will be carried on with vigor and on clear-cut, uncompromising lines.

The strike of the Rod Mill workers has collapsed. One-third of the Wire Trust's employees are blacklisted, and these aristocrats of labor have now ample leisure to mediate on the peculiar workings of the great pure and simple theory of "harmony between Capital and Labor."

The temporary spurt of "prosperity" has here, as elsewhere, caused somewhat of a revival of trade-unionism. The meetings of the Central Labor Union are rather well attended. Our Kangaroos, who thought they had the C. L. U. in their pockets, became very much enthused, and one of them wrote a letter to the weekly edition of the New York "Volkzeitung" praising the C. L. U. as the most socialistic central body in the country.

But, alas, the Kangaroo enthusiasm turned out to be a misapprehension. Two weeks after the publication of the aforesaid praise, the C. L. U. slapped its Kangaroo imitators in the face by defeating their candidate for the presidency of the body and electing a pure and simple worker with a vote of 73 against 39.

The following week the weekly "Volkzeitung" contained a furious tirade from the erstwhile admirer. That good man would not fall into such mishaps. If he would follow our advice and confine himself to writing on such things as Mormonism, delirium tremens, sewerage, instead of talking about matters of the labor movement in regard to which it is so very risky to talk through one's hat.

There will be no lack of freak movements in the present campaign. The local Jones boomers have held a conference and decided to publish nomination papers. The Cleveland Kangaroos have joined with the Debitals and are likewise trying to get signatures for their multi-ticket

Peekskill, N. Y.

Peekskill, N. Y., Feb. 23.—For the first time the S. L. P. held here a municipal convention and nominated the following ticket:

Trustee, First District, Gilbert MacAvary; driller, Trustee, Second District, H. Zolot, sheet ironworker; Water Commissioners, John Lent, stove-molder; W. J. Richards, stove-molder; Fred Varin, laborer.

MANIFESTO

Of Pioneer Alliance, S. T. & L. A., of Haverhill to the Shoeworkers of Haverhill and Vicinity.

FELOW WAGE-SLAVES—

Often, and again, have you responded to the frantic and familiar cry sent up by the traitor leaders of pure and simple trade organizations: "Organize! Organize!! Organize!!!" As often as you have so "organized," you have been defeated, not because you did not fight hard enough, but because you were organized on false lines, which is the same as saying that you remained actually unorganized.

The history of pure and simple trade organizations among the working class, and the shoeworkers form no exception—is that it has caused the victims who were caught in its meshes, to always fight a losing battle with exploiting capitalism, to travel forever in short, to put it merely, pure and simple trade has led the working-class through a slaughter-house to the brink of an open grave. This is no idle statement. It is a fact, an undeniable fact, corroborated by evidence culled from the pages of pure and simple history, and substantiated by the figures of statisticians everywhere. Such being the fact, it naturally follows that the only sane thing for the working-class to do is to first find out what has caused the disasters of the past, then as men and women who are conscious of their natural interests and the interests of the class that they belong to and must remain with, to set about and remove the cause.

Shoeworkers' History.

It is an irrefutable fact that for the last forty years of the history of the shoeworkers that they have been periodically treated with false promises by their so-called leaders, who for the most part were an ignorant, stupid and corrupt set of fakirs, who "organized" the workers that annually they might lead their guileless followers into the shambles of capitalism like sheep and sell them to their exploiters in the shop or their agents, the Republican or Democratic parties.

In eloquent tones the shoeworkers have been told of the good things that were in store for them if they would only "organize" and "organize," they did again and again. To-day, after forty years of that kind of "organization," the workers at the shoe trade are worse off than though they had not "organized" at all.

It is the purpose of this sketch to point out, by cold reason and evidence, to the exploited shoeworkers of Haverhill and vicinity, the cause of their many defeats in the past, and to show them the path, the only path which leads to victory. Until the shoeworkers go to the root of the trouble, until they intelligently understand the cause of their defeats they must forever remain fighting the same hopeless battle about the revolution which they then realize that they have fought for so long. In determining the cause of their trouble one thing must be understood thoroughly by the shoeworkers, that is, the nature of the instrument which has been used by them in the past in their battles with capitalism. Once that the nature of that instrument, or union, is known, then there is a simultaneous exposure of the weakness, knavery and absolute impotency of the old-style pure and simple union.

The Old Instrument of Warfare.

The pure and simple union saw the light, if it ever saw it, in England, after the dissolution of the Guilds, which had existed under the feudal system. The present or capitalist system was born in the latter part of the Eighteenth Century, responsive to conditions largely brought about through the inventions which were then new, and were destined to bring about the revolution which the then reigning mercantile or capitalist class desired—the inventions of Arkwright, Jenny, Crompton and Watt, all of which happened between 1750 and 1768.

How It Worked in America.

With the birth of capitalism, the English working class found that the conditions under which they had existed in the days of the guilds no longer obtained. Capitalism was relentlessly grinding out the lives of the workers in the interest of profit. No longer could the English working-class believe that the interest of employer and employee were one and identical. So the pure and simple trade union was organized to fight the battles of the English working class with their capitalist exploiters.

At that time the workers of England were without the strongest weapon of civilized man—the ballot. The only thing they could use to assist them in the battle with capitalism was the trade union pure and simple.

Capitalism passes through three stages in its evolution: Competition, transition and concentration. At the time of the birth of the trade union in England capitalism was passing through the stage of competition. At this period of capitalist evolution the rivalry among capitalists, the crudeness of the tool, the birth of new enterprises and industries, all contributed to assist the growth of the trade union movement. The competition of capitalism at that time and the utter lack of knowledge concerning the nature of the working class organized politically, had not the ballot, caused the existence of the abolition of pure and simple trade unionism.

This sketch of the conditions surrounding the early history of trade unionism, as we in America have known it, is attempted that we may be able to step to the shoeworkers who have suffered, show to its victims what they have suffered, and that it is to attempt to beat capitalism at its own game—fighting it with our few pennies only instead of our votes also.

With the birth of the American Republic came new fields for capitalist conquest. While it took England from 1750 until now to run the gamut of capitalist development, the United States has covered the same scale in about half that time. The reasons for this are so obvious that their recital here is unnecessary, other than to remark that here capitalism was unhampered, while in England it

was to some extent held back because of the old ideas and customs which still remained as handed down from the feudal system.

As capitalism began to develop on this side of the Atlantic the working class began to feel its effects and in consequence organized, as they thought, for their own protection. Notwithstanding that in America the working class had the ballot they set up the pure and simple trade union as did their British ancestors at home, and in so doing marked out for the American working class of that time and for succeeding generations the impossible task of maintaining safe relations with the capitalist class. However natural it might be to set up the pure and simple union in England, where the workers were without the ballot, it was unnatural, it was criminal, to set up a pure and simple union in the United States, where the workers had the ballot. The English workers taboed the discussion of politics in the union because they had no voice in the determining of political questions. The American working class taboed the discussion of politics in the union through the instrumentality of the labor fakir in a country where the workers had the ballot and were in the majority, and, in consequence, could make or unmake all economic conditions which they desire or deplore.

Starting in ignorance, as the British style of trade union did, it logically developed its career in crookedness, and as a result has become—whatever name it may appear—wholly impotent on the economic field. Ignorant of the nature of the beast that it fights, or pretends to, knowing nothing of the nature of the capitalist system of production or its economic laws, the pure and simple union stands to-day where it stood a century ago in the valleys of Lancashire, still obstructing working-class progress by fighting, or claiming to fight, the present order of concentrated or trustified capitalism, with the same impotent weapon with which it fought the cockroach boss of the nineteenth century. It stands for the conditions which the capitalist class imposes upon the working-class, and at the same time casting their votes for the parties of capitalism which are pledged to uphold the system which makes, and must make, the lot of the workers grow harder and harder as time rolls on.

Procession of False Shoeworkers' Unions.

With these facts before us, let us profit thereby and pass on to the examination of the history of the trade unions of the shoeworkers beginning with the Knights of St. Crispin, which was, while not the first shoeworkers' union, the first one of any considerable prominence.

Since the Knights of St. Crispin there have been the Knights of Labor, the Lesters' Protective Union, D. A. 216, K. of L.; the International Boot and Shoeworkers' Union, and the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union. All these national bodies have appeared upon the scene since 1860, together with an endless number of smaller or local bodies, which had no national organization. All of them have gone with the exception of the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union, and to put it classed with the rest of the old-style unions of the last named body can be plainly heard. What has caused so much "organization" and so little result is the question for the shoeworkers to determine. It can be all summed up in a few words—that they were organized on false lines, and led by either ignorances or fakirs, who used the union for their own aggrandizement, political or otherwise, instead of making it what it should be—an instrument in the hands of the working-class to shield them from the robbery of capitalism, to instruct them upon the nature of the class-struggle in which the working-class are forced to act. Instead of making of the trade union a training school to teach the shoeworkers how to fight the capitalist class successfully, and put an end to its robbery it has been the training school for the enslavement of the toilers in the interest of their exploiters through the manipulation of the misleaders of labor—the modern Judas Iscariots—the labor fakirs. It has always been the mission of these worthless trade union workers for a political pull that they worked for in a soft political job. Their slogan has always been "No politics in the union," but they always saw to it that capitalist politics were kept in the union and laborer class politics were kept out. Hence it is no accident that among the labor fakirs of recent shoeworkers unions, who were cared for by the union, the Cleveland administration as an immigrant inspector, and Edward F. McSweeney cared for similarly, and a certain malodorous Harry J. Skeffington, for his fealty to the Democratic skinners of the shoeworkers rewarded with a fat job by the same Grover Cleveland, who violated his oath of office and sent the Federal troops to smash the Chicago strike in 1894. Lately the successor of all these labor "leaders," John F. Tobin, the Socialist-Democrat, in the Kansas City convention of the A. F. of L., congratulated the striking shoeworkers of Marlboro upon the election of the capitalist Mayor Plunkett, who was the political tool of the shoe manufacturers. John O'Connell, whose shop's crew was then on strike against the treatment which this same capitalist exploiter of Marlboro's shoeworkers had given them, and which forced them to strike against, while the national president of the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union was applauding the election of Plunkett, which was another link in the chain of their slavery.

Shoeworkers of Haverhill and vicinity: you know only too well the record which has been made at Haverhill, Lynn, Brockton and Marlboro. Under the leadership of these traitors, who always have and always will lead you to defeat, you have become poor in body, destitute in purse and ignorant in knowledge, while your pockets, slick in speech and rotund in form. The only "politics in the union" that you have to fear is the capitalist politics of your misleaders and their followers. Throw overboard the pure and simple union with its poor and simple tactics, join the only economic organization of your class which can or will do anything to assist you in your battle with capitalism—the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance; an organization which stands for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system of wage-slavery, an organization which shows you the way to freedom, an organization that is respect-

ed because it is feared by the capitalist class, which is backed, and known to be backed, by the only political party of labor—the Socialist Labor Party; an organization which has brought forth comments in the Senate of the United States, as in the case of Senator White, the California silver-bug Senator who caused Cleveland to send the troops to Chicago in 1894, who read the below declaration of principles of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance during the Senate debate upon the Phillips bill, which propitiated the pure and simple fakirs, by giving them a half-dozen jobs on the Industrial Commission. Senator White argued for the passage of the bill to keep the working-class away from the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, and in the drag-net of capitalism—the pure and simple union. In doing so he dramatically read the eloquent declaration of principles of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, concluding his speech by saying: "This is how the working-class is beginning to organize."

S. T. & L. A.

The Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance came into existence because of the wrong-headedness of old-style unionism and the corruption of its leaders. The New Trade unionist knows well that there is no hope while the workers are organized for their own undoing. The pure and simple union is to-day but a capitalist machine, which keeps the workers in ignorance, that they may be held up and daily robbed by their capitalist masters. That robbery can only be stopped when the workers united as a class politically as well as economically, take possession of the public powers in the interest of the only class, which is at all necessary in the world to-day—the working-class.

Until then the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance will fight as hard as it can to wrest from the exploiters of labor as many concessions as is possible to get, and they will get more than the old-style union, because an organization of labor can only force concessions from capitalists to the extent that it is feared.

The Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance is feared because it has none of the cringing, fawning, begging ways which characterize the old-style union. It is feared because it stands for the overthrow of capitalism, while the old pure and simple union does not. It is feared because it intelligently shows the working-class the pathway to freedom.

Shoeworkers! Join the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance; leave the hulk of old unionism to the fakirs; learn the lesson learned by the workers of Carmaux, in France; in Belgium, and other European countries, on how to win trade union victories; unite to win, not, as heretofore, the illusion of a few evasive cents a day more, not, as heretofore, the illusion of a shorter workday but tangible palliatives, and these can only be got by steadily aiming at the total overthrow of wage-slavery.

Fellow Wage-Slaves! Learn the lesson that wages and politics are inseparable questions. Engrave this cardinal truth deep on the tablets of your memory. Once that it is learned you will organize with politics in your unions, but that politics will be the politics of your own class, the politics that will assist the representatives of the class-conscious labor to our city hall, to your State Capitol and to Washington to take possession of the public powers in the interest of your class, to institute the Socialist commonwealth, a commonwealth in which you will receive the full benefit and free exercise of all your faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization, instead of one-fifth, as now.

Disabuse your minds of the idea that capitalism always was and always will be. Learn that man once lived like a beast, that he once inhabited a cave, that he was then a cannibal, that he emerged from his cave to pass through the patriarchal family from there came into the Greek and Roman civilization; thence he passed through feudalism and into capitalism. Other social systems have existed before the present, all of them passed away because they carried within themselves the germs of their own destruction; they all passed away successively. Capitalism is no exception to the law, which has been observed, that no man can build on a rotten foundation, but it will not go until the working-class, which is the only class to be benefited by its departure, bids it go. The working-class—our class—the only class that has passed through all the social systems of the past, because it has always been the sole wealth-producing class, must strike the blow. History proves beyond the shadow of a doubt that the classes of the past who have freed themselves and secured power had themselves to capture the public powers.

"Something Now."

Drop the "something-now" notion that your fakir leaders have filled your heads with about getting "something now," as we have periodically observed the capitalist-class will give up none of its privileges, except through fear or because of your numerical strength and they cannot surely be so stupid as to fear the old-style union, which is so cringing as to beg for what it could, if it would, take. The "something now" that pure and simple has got for you is the defeats of many battles at Haverhill, Lynn, Brockton and Marlboro. Away with it!

Shoeworkers of Haverhill! After reading these pages and thinking over the history of the past, you must, it seems, conclude that to organize successfully you must organize both politically and economically. Before it is too late, before you are reduced to the point where you cannot organize, because of the hope that has vanished from your hearts forever, organize once more, organize in the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance. Capitalistic greed will force you to organize, so organize on correct lines in a union that is not a dues-trap, that is not run by or for fakirs, but to assist the workers and cement the bond of solidarity that must bind us together. Such is the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, backed by the Socialist Labor Party.

Our doors are open; we bid you welcome. Investigate our programme; learn the mission of your class and with them march shoulder to shoulder to freedom. PIONEER ALLIANCE, S. T. & L. A., Merrimac Street, Haverhill, Mass.

St. Paul, Minn.

St. Paul, Minn., Feb. 21.—The S. L. P. of this city met in municipal convention on the 14th inst. and made the following nominations:

Mayor, Henry Carling; Aldermen, Second Ward, Arnold Jensen; Eighth Ward, Andrew W. M. Anderson; Ninth Ward, Jas. F. Flynn.

Further nominations were left in the hands of a committee consisting of Anderson, Charles Davidson and G. F. Specter.

MUNICIPAL.

Socialist Campaign Launched in Hartford, Ct.

The Political and Economic Principles and Tactics of the National Party Declarations Endorsed—Genuine, No Bogus Municipalization.

HARTFORD, CONN., Feb. 20.—The municipal convention of the Socialist Labor Party of this city has just been held, launching forth a full ticket, together with a platform and manifesto to the working class, as follows:

The Ticket.
For Mayor, JOSEPH S. POWELL.
For City Clerk, FREDERICK FELLEMAN.
For Collector, MATHEW LECHNER.
For Treasurer, HENRY E. PHILON.
For Auditor, FREDERICK GRUNINGER.
For Marshal, JOHN WITMANN.

The Platform.
The Socialist Labor Party of Hartford, in convention assembled, reaffirms and endorses the principles and tactics of the national party in politics, as well as in its economic attitude.

We acknowledge the fact that in the present form of society labor properly exercised is the only source of all wealth, but that, in adverse proportion, the wealth thus created by the laboring class is appropriated by the capitalist class, the very few who roll in idleness and luxury, whereas the working class gets barely enough to eke out a miserable existence.

The result of such conditions is an incessant class war, perpetually carried on between the different classes with the inevitable result that those economically weak will be driven overboard by those economically strong.

No reform of any kind can materially change this state of affairs, for as long as the main cause remains in operation the effects will and must reappear again. The old political parties, each and all, are bound to uphold the present system, therefore by the very nature of the thing these parties are the direct tools of the capitalist class; the sham fights these parties carry on against each other are only for the purpose of misleading the working class, because the very moment the working class rises to power these parties will forget at once all their former hatred and oppose unitedly the working class, these so much coveted "friends" at election time of former days.

In entering the municipal campaign for the first time we are fully aware that the social ills from which the working class suffers are too deeply rooted to be pulled out within the limit of any one city; only the nation at large can do it. Nevertheless certain conditions can be improved, and a further degradation be checked, if the working class is conscious of the fact that it must strike the blow itself in order to become master of its own destiny. In view of this our candidates have been solemnly pledged to carry out in letter and spirit the following demands:

I. The citizens of Hartford to have a direct voice in the making of all laws which shall govern them upon the petition of ten per cent of the voters. Councils to submit to the voters of our city at large, for their approval or disapproval, any proposed law or amendment, such action to be final and not subject to veto.

II. Every official elected by the Socialist Labor Party shall, within the sphere of his functions, diligently work for the absolute and unconditional recovery by the city of the municipal franchises, privileges, rights and property that have already been alienated to private corporations, and against any further such grants or alienations under any circumstances or upon any conditions whatever.

III. We demand that the city acquire the street railways, electric light and gas works, and all public utilities requiring a public franchise, same to be operated co-operatively by the citizens or employees under control of the city administration. Said employees to elect their own superior officers, except such as are elected by the direct vote of the people. No employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

IV. A complete system of civil service reform, believing that all city employees should retain their positions as long as they perform the duties of the same. A system by which employees are subject to removal with every change of administration cannot fail to produce a dangerous corruption in city affairs and impair the efficiency of city employees.

V. The abolition of the contract system in all city work. The city to do its own building, grading, paving, sewerage, and employing its own citizens whenever possible, and paying the regular union wages of the different trades. Eight hours to constitute a day's work for all workers employed. The minimum wage shall be \$2 a day.

VI. All city printing to bear the union label, and all material used by the city to be the product of union labor when such can be procured.

VII. Taxation to full value of all vacant lots and farm lands within the city limits.

VIII. Rigid enforcement of sanitary conditions of streets, alleys, lots, lawns, factories and workshops within the city limits.

IX. The acquisition by the city of vacant lots and lands within the city limits, and the erection thereon of sanitary and comfortable homes with modern conveniences.

(Continued to page 4.)

THE PEOPLE.

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Entered as second class matter at the New York Post Office, on April 6, 1891.

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential).....2,068
In 1890.....18,331
In 1892 (Presidential).....21,157
In 1894.....33,133
In 1896 (Presidential).....36,564
In 1898.....82,204
In 1899.....85,231

Unfair as he finds it to spur on the industrial capitalists, by depriving their bread of its butter, yet the capitalist thinks it necessary to reduce the laborer's wages to a minimum in order "to keep him industrious."—MARX.

FIFTH KICK-OUT.

It will be of more than passing interest to the comrades and friends, and to all those who have at heart the forming and progress of a bona fide political party of the working class in the land, to know that the New York combination of tax paying small traders in Bermuda potatoes, lager beer and Egyptian onions, usurious money lenders, labor fakirs, business "Socialists," and European aliases, collectively known as the "Kangaroo party," has made a fifth attempt to steal the name of the Socialist Labor Party—and has just been again kicked out of court.

It happened this way:
The appellate division of the Supreme Court, as recently announced in these columns, sat down upon the fourth attempt of these gentlemen, on the ground that, the election having been held, the issues in the controversy were settled. This eminently wise decision was arrived at, no doubt, by the light of that imposing demonstration held last election day in this state when the Party polled a larger vote than ever before; the decision was also, no doubt, aided by the light which fell upon the Kangaroo claimants from thirty-five of their own affidavits, which, the record revealed, were false, inasmuch as they pretended to verify an affidavit that did not exist.

Thrown out that fourth time, the gentlemen tried to get a rehearing from that same Court. The attempt was made by another affidavit. This affidavit was a beauty. It set out that the court erred in considering the issues in the controversy settled, because (as a proof that these issues were not settled), from top to bottom, the Socialist Labor Party had two distinct sets of organizations national, state and local. The Party's affidavit, that let the wind out of that bag, was simple and neat, as simple and neat as a good, strong steel needle. It reproduced one of the numerous placards that the kangaroos flooded the city with last campaign, and that their organs reproduced, bearing this heading:

SOCIALISTS, DON'T VOTE!

REFUTE THE TAMMANY-REPUBLICAN POLICE BOARD CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT UNDER THE NAME OF THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

The affidavit showed that such placards and publications had made perfectly clear that the applicants and the Socialist Labor Party were wholly distinct; and that the increased vote polled by the Party under such circumstances disposed of all pretences about there being "from top to bottom two distinct sets of S. L. P. organizations, national, state and local." (The placard above quoted was too grandiose not to rescue from total oblivion. During the campaign, Section New York secured a stack of them. Every delegate to the approaching National Convention will be supplied with two copies, one for himself, and one for his section, to be kept as mementos. In sight of this fifth kick-out, the document has gathered increased memento qualities.) The Party's affidavit then proceeded to show that the official acts of the claimants themselves betrayed the fact that they recognized that the late election figures, following smack upon their placards, had settled the issues in the controversy. This point was clinched by producing the resolutions adopted by the claimants at their recent Rochester pow-wow, whereby a Committee of Nine was appointed with power to change their party's name, yank off its "national candidates," alter its platform and walk into another, the Debs party. With the Party's proverbial wickedness and love of "bilinguism," it clinched this last point by pickling and holding up the fact that the claimant's attorney, who swore the affidavit and made

the motion for the rehearing. "Morris Hilquit, Esq.," himself is one of that tall-tale Committee of Nine, and had accepted the office. In short, that they were routed, were on the run, and knew it.

As already stated, this fifth attempt to thwart the fiat of the Party's referendum, taken within the Party itself, and to thwart that still more imposing referendum held last election day, both of which spewed out the kangaroos and emphatically ordered the Party's colors to remain in the Party's hands, failed, as it could not choose but fail. The kangaroos got kicked out a fifth time.

WE BRING THE JUBILEE.

This week's report of the General Executive Board of the S. T. and L. A. is particularly interesting; how very interesting may not quite appear from the condensed form in which the report is made.

The breath of Socialism breathed by the Providence, R. I., Alliancemen is rousing from their stupor the rank and file of the textile proletariat of Providence and vicinity as far westward as Fall River, Mass.; it is electrifying them with the sense of their own dignity and power; and, proportionately, it is throwing the labor fakirs into hot water. James Whitehead, of Fall River, the time-honored labor misleader among the textiles, was, it will be remembered, thwarted in his designs to bag the workers of the Lorraine Mills, the Alliance taking the men in charge and driving Mr. Whitehead and his pals out of the place.

It will also be remembered that, in his desperate straits, he accepted a challenge to debate the issues between Old and New Trade Unionism in his own home of Fall River, but backed out at the last moment. Comrade Kroll, of D. A. 17, was, however, not thrown off the scent. He followed Whitehead into Fall River, a big hall was hired, the textile perverts especially and all other workmen were invited, Mr. Whitehead unexpectedly appeared, but, made such a showing that he might as well have stayed away. The large workmen's audience that thronged the hall heard the Labor or Social Question presented to them for the first time from the only side that it can touch them, in the only manner that it can raise them, to wit, from the class-conscious economic side. The points scored by the speaker received such approbation as denoted the first full grasping as a self-evident truth long concealed under hard crusts of well cultivated ignorance. It goes without saying that class-conscious doctrine throwing the light on the capitalist exploiter and simultaneously illuminating the labor fakir, dawned for the first time upon his former dupes, and they received with loud gratitude the clarifying information.

But further and, in a manner, even more tangible proofs are gathered of the positively lasting impression of this Alliance work. That proof is furnished by Mr. Whitehead himself, together with his associates in the national organization of the textile workers. The body had by a general vote decided to hold its national convention this year in Providence. Mr. Whitehead and fellow-fakirs now find Providence too hot a place to meet in; they ignore the general vote, and called the convention to meet in Dover, N. H. The move, so far from easing up their straits, increased them. Protests, never before heard, are now showering upon them for such an act of high-handed usurpation; and indignation has started questions that the recent Alliance work is furnishing the answers to.

We bring the Jubilee. The Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance's trumpet-blasts have a fibre all their own that enable them to penetrate where no other sound of Labor redemption hitherto could, or ever can.

HAND IN HAND THEY TREAD THE MERRY DANCE.

The contract for the Rapid Transit in New York city has been signed. The occasion of the signing looked solemn, at least those who officiated and the papers who have their finger in that pie have tried to make it so. Closely looked into, the solemnity vanishes and, instead, one sees the truth, a huge capitalist debauch. It was a gathering of big capitalists at which Republicans and Democrats met and shook hands. Their political "animosities" were all sunk; a strong bond held them together. The community of interests, in being masters of a large undertaking in which Labor had to do the main work and be kept under, requires such unity of action by the political power that the "dividing lines" in politics were wiped off. Gold Republicans and gold Democrats, free traders and protectionists, gold mine owners and silver mine owners, Tammany leaders and Goo-gooes elbowed each other in perfect harmony, and Mr. August Belmont, Democratic backer of the Republican riots in Kentucky, was central figure.

Ten to one, the building of the Rapid Transit will give occasion to many a "disagreement" between Brother Capitalist and Brother Labor. Disagreements frequently become acrimonious. When that happens Brother Capital must show a solid front. No sentimentality will do. Coming events cast their shadows before them.

Messrs. Chase and Courtney, the Socialist (?) Mayors of Massachusetts, tried a raid last week upon the city. Mr. Chase tried it before. Together, they fared no better than singly. New York is the last place to try fake politics in, and it is the toughest spot to attempt a breach into the S. L. P.

The reason that Messrs. Strasser and Wood give for having ordered the Boston cigarmakers back to work is that if the Boston strikers had won, similar strikes would have broken out in all large cities for the "clean table," and they not being as well organized as Boston, would have lost. In other words, a "perfect organization" does not set the pace for the weaker ones, but the weaker organizations set the pace for the rest. Which, translated into still plainer vernacular, means that the Strasser concern abandons all its fighting features but concentrates all its efforts to raise dues for its officers to be in condition to trade with the employers.

A new plan for a co-operative colony now starts from Maine. It starts with a neat prospectus and the usual counting-house arithmetic. It starts with the assumption that 100,000 co-operators can be gathered in; that each can fork down \$100; and that thus \$10,000,000 capital can be secured. So far the prospectus bears the usual earmarks of the moon-calf. But one passage in its shows that the schemer, moon-calf though he may be, is not without an eye to the main chance, and without some little sense, enough to cause him to suspect the possibility of failure and to make provision against it. The passage is this:

"Nor need the \$10,000,000 all be paid in before beginning work."

Of course not; some salary is needed to lubricate the wheels even of windmills in empty pates.

The single tax politicians are receiving hard knocks from bad experience. They imagined that, gathered under a supposedly radical platform, they could hold a large number of members together and in that way do some political trading, if possible secure some little political pap. Experience has been knocking large holes into that program. And now comes the pesky, South African war and knocks so big into the program that nothing is left of it. Mr. Thomas G. Shearman, better known as "Tearful Tom," quite a single tax luminary, has taken offence at some pro-Boer declarations of the Manhattan Single Tax Club, the gentlemanly view being that England is introducing the single tax into Africa!

It is unnecessary to pry into the secret sources of Mr. Shearman's views. Without prying, it goes without saying that Mr. Shearman has material interests that charm him to England's side. The single tax ghost can't turn without stamping its toes.

A new suit has been started against Carnegie by his partner. The cause of action now charged is fraud. This is as usual. So munificent an endower of churches as Andrew could hardly be otherwise than his partners now charge. So has it ever been, so will it ever be so long as class rule prevails.

The higher the plum-tree, the riper the plum:
The richer the cobbler, the blacker his thumb.

The bigger the brigand, the richer his gifts;
The louder his praises by the clergy he endowed, the larger his bounty; the larger his bounty, the huger his crime.

The New York Legislature is "very busy with a bill to pay teachers' salaries. That teachers should be paid no one will deny. They surely are not paid any too well. But the question comes, why so much attention to the teachers, to seeing that they be well paid, and so little attention given to the children of the working people, to seeing that they be in proper condition to profit by well-paid teachers?

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC.

Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye!

Mr. Kennedy, of the International Typographical Union and of Idaho Bull Pen celebrity, or, which is the same, the New York "American Workman," local organ of that gentleman's union, has the floor. The "American Workman" desires to give the fullest advertisement to a certain fact, which it embodies in an item of its issue of the 17th of last month, and which, always anxious to accommodate such folks as the "American Workman," we hereby give the benefit of "The People's" circulation, adding the hope, backed by the request, that the item be extensively read. It is this:

"The People," a socialistic paper published by "Fred," DeLeon, a (Beekman street) gang of anarchists, who claim to be Socialists, will, in the near future, as I am told, be issued as a daily. The DeLeon (Beekman street) "People" is a non-union paper, published by men who are enemies of trade unions. This fact should be thoroughly advertised.

Leaving wholly aside the Anarchist humor, latent in the presumption of the "American Workman" to pass an opinion upon what is Socialism and who are true Socialists; leaving for later and speedy treatment the interesting question here raised as to what is a "union," together with the kindred and still more interesting matter of what it is that is biting the "American Workman"—leaving all that aside, and accepting for the present, the "American Workman's" own theory that a "union paper" is only such a paper as is set up by members of the I. T. U., receiving union wages and working union hours, then the "American Work-

man" beautifully puts its foot into its own mouth. It furnishes valuable corroborative evidence of the labor-riding, labor-dispensing qualities of the labor fakir. It does that for the simple reason that, it so happens, that "The People" has all along been set up exclusively by members in good standing of the I. T. U., of "Big Six." In view of this fact, the declaration by the "American Workman" folks that "The People" is "non-union," must be, ought to be, quite an eye-opener to the I. T. U. men who set up "The People," and who, under the pretext that they were "union men" have been recently bled of \$1 assessments to enable five-dollar-a-day "Secret Committees" and others, to make hay while the "Sun" strike shone!

Or can it be that he writer or inspirer of the declaration is one of those who, having vainly intrigued against some fellow-member in "The People's" composing rooms, so as to get the job himself, is of the opinion that, he not having been duly "appreciated," those who were are non-union?

Which ever the theory may be, one is bound to agree with the "American Workman" that its statement on this head deserves thorough advertisement; it throws quite a light upon the mechanism of the labor fakir's motives.

The Boston, Mass., "Herald" aims a witty satire at "Socialist" Carey in this wise:

Socialist Carey observes that God did not put Rockefeller in charge of the oil of the earth, but that the devil did it, and he is against the devil on that account. To this extent Mr. Rockefeller may be said to be engaged in successful missionary work.

The spineless Socialism of Mr. James F. Carey, of Haverhill, having been thus pricked, next in order is to have the gentleman's spineless pretenses of bad health, on which he has been traveling, likewise pricked. Mr. Carey has traveled as far as he got on alleged consumption and other deadly diseases by the report of which he gathers sympathy for himself.

The Pueblo, Colo., "Courier" is a rapid maturer. About two weeks ago it appeared rigged out with borrowed Socialist feathers. It came out with an article urging a political convention of trade unions for the purpose of independent class-conscious political action at the approaching election. Similar calls have often issued from similar crooked sources, notably here in New York. It takes more than a few weeks, however, for them to "mature," i. e., to drop the mask and tell the tale of who bought them by raising their purchaser's political flag. It took the "Courier" only a couple of weeks to mature: it is out for Bryan, and in coming out it takes the public into its confidence with a frankness worthy of a better cause.

It admits that "it has not been an easy matter for us to arrive at his conclusion" (the trading process had hitched), but "after revolving the pros and cons" (political prices are not always paid in the same article; a careful "revolving" of the relative dollars-and-cents value of different offers is needed) it finally had information enough "to assume mature conclusion." It closes giving us the reason for its flop that it "the masses are yet unthinking and ignorant" (consequently gullible).

The "Courier" is the official organ of the Western Labor Union, the organization of the ill-starred Idaho miners, whom Bryan's man, Governor Steiensen, pronounced bandits and treated as mad dogs.

If this paper is being sent to you without you having ordered it, don't refuse it. It has been paid for by a friend of yours. Read it, and renew when the trial subscription expires. You will find the date on the wrapper.

Lectures.

[Notices for this column must be in not later than Monday morning.]

BRIDGPORT, CONN.
March 4, Debate between representative Republican and Democrat on one side, and Socialists on the other. Subject: "Resolved that it is to the best interests of the working class to support the Socialist Labor Party." 657 Main street.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.
March 4.—Thomas T. Hickey, "The Mission of the Socialist Labor Party." 315 Washington street.

CLEVELAND, O.
March 7.—"Socialism and Utopia," 1058 Payne avenue, corner McLeary street.

DENVER, COL.
March 4.—W. Holmes, "The International," Labor Lyceum, 1820 Champa street.

DETROIT, MICH.
March 4.—Herman Richter, "Surplus Value," 313 Grand avenue.
March 11.—R. B. Meyer, "The Socialist Labor Party and Reform Movements." 313 Gratiot avenue.

NEW YORK.
March 2.—A. S. Brown, "Struggle for Freedom," 242 East 30th street.
March 4.—C. Teche, "Religion & Socialism," Club Rooms, 109 East 100th street.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.
March 4.—Charles Kroll, "The Last Days," Textile Hall, Olneyville square.
March 11.—J. Muldowney, "Classes," Textile Hall, Olneyville square.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
March 4.—T. M. Anthony, "Progress," 909 1/2 Market street (Pythian Castle).
March 11.—J. Robertson, "Socialism," 909 1/2 Market street (Pythian Castle).

Nemesis.

(Written for The People, by Wm. Doran, Jersey City, N. J.)

Ignore, deceive, misrepresent,
Lie, slander and betray;
For all of this, my cunning ones,
There comes a reck'ning day.

Conceal the springs of reason—strive
To hide what all should know;
The dammed-up current of the truth
Will rise and overflow.

No flattery, flattery, no guile,
No quiet classes' class;
No power, no deity, no prayer,
Can stay the coming crash.

When the hour has struck its summons,
And 'neath the tread
Of revolting slaves' battalions,
Superstition, Fraud, is dead;
On the planks of the whirlwind,
In dread majesty of might,
Rides implacable Nemesis
Through the storm and through the night:
To smother the worms of ages,
Blood and hunger, bitter tears,
To fulfill the hope of ages,
In the fatal, coming years.

New Trade Unionism.

By Ella Reeves Cohen, East Orange, N. J.

The entire rank and file of the membership of the old pure and simple trade unions has become permeated with the spirit of discontent that often develops into open rebellion against the organization that no longer represents the interests of the working class. No longer do the officers, agents and members of the old trade unions work together for a common end. The officers strive to keep the men in darkest ignorance as to the workings of the machine that is still running on the worn out plan of trying to squeeze out favors from the capitalist class; and the workmen must hand out their pennies and even dollars to the officers and agents, only to perpetuate a system that robs him daily.

These facts brought out by class-conscious men who have investigated the entire situation, have been embodied in pamphlets like "Tragic Pages," "What Means this Strike" and "The Story of the Bull Pen," men read them, their eyes are opened, and at first, in their terrible revulsion of feeling against these robbers that have been posing as the good Samaritans of the working class, they denounce ALL forms of trades unions, and in the full realization that they have been duped as well as robbed, they take a stand against ALL economic organization. Even men who have become class-conscious Socialists sometimes fail to understand the importance of the new economic organization—the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance.

Under the present system there is still a pressing need for economic as well as political organization, but the two must work together; there must be an educational power, with political force back of it.

As long as a man must fight for a living wage, as long as he must struggle to keep his labor power on the market, just so long will it be necessary to organize trade unions.

The new trade unionism, founded on Socialist principles, stands for the total annihilation of all that exists to blind and delude the working class; it demands a spirit of solidarity among the workers that makes no compromise with the capitalist class at the ballot box. Too long have American workmen been willing to follow the example of the British trade unionists, who have been used as the tail to the kite of the middle class politicians, who, under the rule of "No politics in trade unions," have crushed out all tendency to the expression of a revolutionary spirit, and have succeeded in inducing the members of these unions to continue to vote against their own class. A brighter example, however, has been furnished to all workmen by the new trade unionism of Germany, of France, of Sweden, and of Belgium. Founded on the principles of Socialism, backed by strong political action, they have demonstrated what can be done by an aggressive economic organization.

More concessions have been made, and more power gained to relieve present conditions than could possibly have been obtained by non-political unions.

As one of the French delegates said, with true force, at the International Congress of Socialists in London in 1890: "In working to bring about the great change from capitalism to Socialism, we must not deprecate trades union action. It is most important to reduce the hours of labor and to increase the rate of wages. As trade unionism develops you also develop organization among the workers; you develop a power not only of organization and administration, but a power to rule the world. I would, however, urge that trade unionism of itself, and by itself, is powerless. Capitalism is strictly political; capitalists are the political class, and possess political power. The capitalist is master of the government and employs government troops to crush the strikes. Political action is used against trade unionism and trade unionism must use political action to take from the privileged classes the power they possess."

At the same Congress, a delegate from Germany said: "We believe trade union organization to be as important as any, but it must have behind it a great political party opposed to all bourgeois parties alike."

And in these foreign countries we find that, although strikes are few, when one does take place, there are no luxurious "leaders" feeding on the blood and bone of the workers, but the spirit of class solidarity asserts itself, and the pennies flow in, not to the "treasury," but to the homes of the strikers.

"The strength of the union is in the spirit of the members."
The same is true of the new trade unionism of this country—the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance. Organized with the object of ending the class struggle as soon as possible, they realize that before that end is attained, the exploitation of labor must continue under the present system; the economic organization, backed by political action, must educate its members, must prepare them for the revolution, by developing the spirit of solidarity in all working men and women.

The three chief objects, therefore, of this class-conscious trade unionism might be summed up as follows:

First, the education of the workers in the principles of the Socialist Labor Party.

Second, to abolish ideas that may exist in different trades and subdivisions of trades as to an aristocracy of labor, and to instill the true spirit of class fellowship.

Third, to express their spirit and their convictions at the ballot box, by voting only for their own class, refusing always to act as political scabs, and condemning all who do, to the scorn they deserve.

With these objects in view, the Alliance workers of this country action, must exert forces solidly against their common enemy. From the textile workers of New England to the coal miners of the West there is an exchange of sympathy, as they are bound together in one common interest, the class interest.



Uncle Sam and Brother Jonathan.

UNCLE SAM.—You seem to be happy. I see a flush of joy suffusing your cheeks, otherwise cadaverous, and a spark of light brightening up your otherwise lackluster orbs.

BROTHER JONATHAN.—Yes, I do feel somewhat elated; I have just sent in my application for membership in the Socialist Labor Party.

U. S. (visibly surprised).—What? You? Since when have you become a Socialist?

B. J.—I have always been a Socialist; I am as good a Socialist as you.

U. S.—How familiar a ring those words have!

B. J. (visibly satisfied with himself).—Yes; as good a Socialist as you; but—

U. S.—I thought there was a "but!"

B. J.—But I don't agree—

U. S.—With Socialist principles, eh?

B. J.—I don't agree with that class struggle affair, for instance.

U. S.—I know you don't.

U. S.—And I think it is harmful to the progress of Socialism.

U. S.—In other words, you consider it harmful to recognize facts and deal with them?

B. J.—What facts?

U. S.—The fact, for instance, that there is going on a class struggle in society; that each class proceeds from its interests; that "justice" is different to each according to the class and material interests that each has; and that clearness cannot be introduced into the conflict without clearness is had upon this fact.

B. J.—But I deny all that; there is no class struggle—

U. S.—Let it go at that, for the moment. Suppose there is none. How can you join a movement that is based on principles that you reject?

B. J.—Is your movement too narrow for a new idea?

U. S.—Leave that matter of a "New Idea" also aside for a moment. The fact is that you would be joining the movement and not the movement you. It is not asking too much of one who joins a movement that he subscribe to its principles.

B. J.—But its principles are absurd.

U. S.—In proof of which "absurdity" it is the only growing movement, while all your movements are like flashes in the pan, and go up like flukes. I shall certainly oppose your admission.

B. J.—You are just like all of them, too narrow to take in a new idea!

U. S.—And what is your "new idea?"

B. J.—That the class struggle should be dropped!

U. S.—You call that a new "idea?"

B. J.—I do!

U. S.—Let me tell you a story: A Jew was once traveling on a lonely road in the west when suddenly a bullet whizzed one-quarter of an inch by his ear. He turned and saw a cow boy running after him and making ready to fire a second shot. In approved western style, the Jew threw up both his hands, and ran the cow boy got within speaking distance, this dialogue took place between them:

"Hold on! Don't shoot! What do I owe to you?"

"Aren't you a Jew?"

"Yes, what of it?"

"Well, you killed my Lord and Savior!"

"If? Why, no, man! I had no hand in it. That happened one thousand eight hundred and sixty odd years ago."

"What! As long ago as that? Why, I only heard of it just now!"

Do you see your beautiful outline in that mirror?

B. J.'s flush leaves his face and his cadaverousness of old returns.

U. S.—You and all such as you who come to us with your "New Ideas" are no better than that ignorant cowboy. Ignorant as he is, the affair of Calvary was news to him—a new thing. So with you people. If instead of doing like Indian fakirs and contemplating your own souls, and seeking to evolve facts out of your own inner consciousness, you informed yourself upon Socialist literature and upon the history of the movement, you would find that your "New Idea" is as stale as yesterday's tax-paying mill-burner. You would find that it has come before, that it has been tried by generations like yourself and notoriety comes like you, and that it burst wide open (Jamming B. J.'s hat down his head, Go to, with your "New Ideas!"

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW BOOKS TO BE PUBLISHED BY THE LABOR NEWS COMPANY.

"DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALISM FROM UTOPIA TO SCIENCE." By Frederick Engels.

A new edition of "Development of Socialism from Utopia to Science" will be ready for shipment about March 15. Chapter headings and sub-headings to aid the student.

8 cents. Usual discount to Societies.

"VALUE, PRICE AND PROFIT." By Carl Marx.

Owing to the large demand for a popular-priced edition of this valuable book, the Labor News Company has decided to publish it in the "People's Library." There will be a short introduction by Lucien March. Ready for shipment about March 15.

10 cents. Usual discount to Societies.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY, 147 East 2nd Street.

ly stricter on this subject than the strict New York laws. The Stahl conspirators are a lot of timberlovers who, in their stupidity, are going to wreck the S. and D. H. F. if they are let alone.

E. A. Los Angeles, Cal.—Your opinion that "Harriman's nomination job has a good deal in it for him," inasmuch as it secures for him a long job as campaigner, must be based on the false assumption that there is a treasury and a movement back of his nomination, and that he will be an actual candidate. Both notions are wrong. He may get a few scraps here and there, and that's all.

Much more interesting is that part of his biography that you are concerning his "So the man is now buried," once buried it matters not whether one is 6 feet underground or 60. Thus the biography may be laid aside just now. Occasion may offer to use it later.

L. B. D. Boston, Mass.—Nobody, both here and in this city, the flat, and that's the end of it. As to Providence, he simply dropped it as a hot potato.

N. L. Chicago, Ill.—We here in America need trouble ourselves little about silly anti-S. L. P. articles in papers in Germany. The fate of the Socialist movement in America is to be decided on American soil, not elsewhere.

Roland, Chicago, Ill.—That scheme of taxing the members of the S. and D. H. Fund to make the "Volkszeitung" the organ of the Fund to the tune of \$12,000 a year, nothing more than a scheme to run the paper down the throats of people who now repudiate it. There are in New York and vicinity fully 12,000 members of the S. and D. H. Fund, mostly Germans. What do they think of that paper? Why, its own circulation tells the story. Despite the strong efforts to get readers for it, its daily circulation is barely 6,000. Now, even if each of every one of these 6,000 members of the S. and D. H. Fund, you would have 6,000 members left, that is fully one-half, who won't take the paper even if it given away. But it is sure to 4,000 is the very highest number of S. and D. H. Fund members who buy the paper. The making of the "Volkszeitung" the compulsory organ of the Fund would, therefore, mean that the paper is to be crammed down the throats of 8,000 members right around here who now repudiate it. The figures for the whole membership give a still worse showing.

J. C. Chicago, Ill.—It may be readily granted that the Party's present basis of representation is not as good as may be wished for; if a better one is proposed, the convention will certainly accept it. But the Party is working conventions and not for padding.

A. L. Y. Buffalo, N. Y.—Apply to B. Rheinhardt, 521 B'way of your city. Some time ago he asked for the same information on the part of the S. and D. H. Fund, and got full set of papers. You may also apply to Wm. L. Brower, General Secretary, S. T. and L. A., 23 Duane st., this city.

A. C. Detroit, Mich.—The long and short of it is that the Socialist Movement is not a thing to toy or trifle with; it is not to be nibbled at for pasture; nor yet is it to be treated as a "Kangaroo" paper. It is a mighty serious thing, to be seriously approached. He who knows not that and tries his fancies on it is exposed to rude shocks. The "shocks" you experience are hereby diagnosed.

Municipal.

(Continued from page 1.)

to be let by the city to the working people at a rental calculated on cost of repairs and administrative expenses.

X. The immediate establishment of free public bathhouses by the city, to be located on convenient sites, as possible, especially in the shop districts, to be accessible to all.

XI. The city to establish a free employment bureau where the workers can secure reliable aid in obtaining employment free of charge.

XII. School education of all children under sixteen years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books, etc., when actually found necessary, without inflicting the stigma of pauperism.

XIII. All business of the city council to be transacted in public; the abolition of secret sessions.

XIV. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.

XV. We condemn the present system of vagrancy laws which treat poverty as a crime, and the so-called organized charity which are used to supply labor to unfair employers.

Manifesto. In submitting this platform and demands to you, workmen of Hartford, we point to the fact that every nominee has signed his resignation blank date. This enables the Socialist Labor Party to withdraw any of its candidates if elected as soon as they do not live and act according to the tactics and principles of the Socialist Labor Party.

The continuous war between capital and labor is fiercer every year. We call upon you, workmen of Hartford, to side with the representatives of the class conscious proletariat of America and this city, and elect them to office, for they will work in your interest, whatever may happen, and against the interest of your oppressors, the capitalist class. In concluding, we remind you of the fact that it is better to vote for the thing you want and not get it, than to vote for something you do not want and get it. Vote for principles upheld by the right men.

Platform Committee: SAMUEL G. HARRISON, MATTHEW LECHNER, JOSEPH POWELL, FREDERICK FELLEMAN.

Daily People: (Continued from page 1.)

Information on this matter; also to bear in mind on what dates their installments fall due, so that the money can be collected in due time.

WILLIAM WALKER, HENRY L. RUBOVITZ, HARRY CARLESS, Committee.

DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE.

The following amounts have been received from sources other than those represented in the "Daily People" Conference of New York:

Previously acknowledged	\$15.25
Section Akron, O., per W. Garrity (second payment)	3.50
Comrades in Chicago, per Henry Sales (second payment)	14.25
Money from the fund arranged by lady comrades in St. Paul, per Miss Helen Jacobson	15.00
Total	\$183.00

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OFFICIAL.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary, 61 Beckman street, New York.

NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Thomas Curran, Secretary, 64 Hanover street, Providence, R. I.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA—R. B. H. Secretary, 800 Richmond street, London, Ontario.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY—147 East 23d street. (The Party's literary agency.)

NOTICE.—For technical reasons, no Party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Regular meeting, with P. Fiebigler in the chair. Absent, Brown and Kepp; both excused. Keep being in Ohio on an agitation tour. The financial report for the week ending Feb. 24 showed, receipts, \$27.90; expenditures, \$23.85.

Section Worcester, Mass., reported the expulsion of L. D. Usher, the former secretary of the Massachusetts State Committee, located at Worcester, for conspiracy and treason against the party. The Kentucky State Committee had sent application for charter from Fulton, Ky., but having received another application from the same town, the committee sent word asking that action be deferred until the matter is cleared. Missouri State Committee sent application for reorganization at Kansas City, Mo. Application granted. The California State Committee sent report of its meeting held in relation to the removal of the seat of said committee to Los Angeles, as ordered by a general vote. There is a conflict of opinion as to the legality of the vote, but as Los Angeles will refer the case to the National Board of Appeals for adjudication, no action was taken.

A sub-committee of two was elected to draft a call to the sections of the country in the matter of raising funds to establish a daily paper. Committee to report at next meeting.

JOHN J. KINNEALLY, Rec. Sec.

GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD, S. T. & L. A.

The regular meeting of the General Executive Board was held on Feb. 23, with the following members present: Cohen, DeLeon, Vogt, Luck and Brewer.

Comrade DeLeon was chosen chairman. Communications: One from D. A. 12, Philadelphia, Pa., requesting that in the future, when D. A. 12 appeals for funds for any local alliance under its jurisdiction, the funds be forwarded direct to the district secretary, so that a proper record of the receipts for such purpose can be kept and published in the official organ, "The People."

This resolution was passed owing to the action of the Philadelphia "Tagblatt," a Kangaroo paper, having garbled the report sent them by the secretary of L. A. 104 striking textile workers. Action: Secretary instructed to write D. A. 12 and notify them that the request was granted; and that hereafter, when the appeal of a district alliance for any local alliance is endorsed by the General Executive Board, all moneys are to be sent direct to the district alliance making the appeal.

One from D. A. 15, Pittsburg, Pa., donating \$5.50 to the Philadelphia textile workers strike. Received and money forwarded to D. A. 12, Philadelphia, Pa.

One from Detroit Mixed Alliance stating that when the case of the temporary injunction which the I. T. U. had secured against the S. T. and L. A. printers' label, had been heard in court, the judge decided that the I. T. U. had no case, and threw it out. The I. T. U. has now filed another set of papers, and the Alliance will come up in a few days, and the Alliance will have to have some advice from the Board. The newspaper reports that the Alliance was enjoined were false. Action: Secretary instructed to notify the local alliance of Detroit to continue the fight.

One from Section Yonkers donating \$2.75 to L. A. 104 striking textile workers of Philadelphia, Pa. One from L. A. 203, textile workers of Passaic, N. J., donating \$5 to the Philadelphia textile workers. Several from D. A. 17, R. I., stating that the officers of the National Federation of Textile Operators of America had been fired by the officers of D. A. 17, with the result that D. A. 17 is organizing right and left. The organizers of the N. F. T. O. have home with their charters under their arm, and have been shoddened the thought of holding their national convention in Providence, the place being too hot for them; and, contrary to the referendum, have decided to meet in Dover, N. H.

Several from L. A. 20, of Sing Sing, N. Y., in relation to their strike against the Bay State Shoe and Leather Company, which L. A. 20 are holding a fair, Feb. 19 to 24, to raise funds to continue the strike. Secretary stated he had visited the strikers several times since the last meeting of the Board, and everything is going on well.

One from L. A. 203, Seattle, Wash., forwarding \$8 for the Philadelphia Textile Workers' strike. Received and forwarded.

One from L. A. 249, cigar makers, London, Ont., requesting the S. T. and L. A. labels for use on cigars in their city. Request granted and labels forwarded.

One from Chicago, Ill., stating that organizer Curran, of the Amalgamated Association of Engineers, was making statements against the Alliance and its officers. Attention to be given to the same. Communications were also received from Brishen, Pa.; New London, Conn.; New Britain, Conn.; London, Ont.; Olneyville, R. I.; Paterson, N. J.; Akron, O.; Stoneham, Mass.; Cincinnati, O.; Bualo, N. Y.; Richmond, Va.; Detroit, Mich.; East Orange, N. J.; Riverport, R. I.

Communication was also received from Section S. L. P. St. Louis, forwarding \$2 for the Philadelphia Textile Workers' strike. Received and money forwarded to Philadelphia.

Charters were granted to: Denver Mixed Alliance, Denver, Col. C. W. A. C. New Britain, Ct. Ledyard Mixed Alliance, New London, Ct.

Mixed Trade Alliance, Ballard, Wash. National Trade Alliance of Iron and Metal Workers of the United States and Canada.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

W. L. BROWER, Secretary.

CONNECTICUT.

Comrade S. Schulberg, organizer of the International Iron and Metal Workers Alliance, will make a tour through the state commencing March 5, and closing March 17.

Organizers and comrades are hereby urged to do all they can to make Comrade Schulberg's visit a success. All iron and metal workers should be urged to attend the meetings, so that alliances can immediately be formed. If any of the comrades will be very light, if any of the Iron Workers and Metal Workers Association has voted a sum of money for the tour.

The following dates have been fixed for the tour up to date:

For Stamford	March 5
For Bridgeport	March 6
For New Britain	March 7
For New Haven	March 8
For New Britain	March 9
For Hartford	March 10
For Rockville	March 11
For New London	March 12

Comrades in other towns or cities who wish to hold a meeting for this purpose must understand at once. The dates now open are from the 13th to the 17th instant, inclusive. Now, comrades, get your coats off.

CHAS. J. MERRICK, State Secretary.

NEW HAVEN.—For the readers of THE PEOPLE we have the cheering news that, with the generous aid of comrades, Section New Haven now has its own headquarters, at 833 Grand avenue, which will be open for everybody every evening and Sunday afternoon. We are prepared to meet all just demands: a variety of Socialist books, journals and pamphlets will be on hand to aid the student of Socialism. Cigars and temperance drinks are sold at lowest rates, and a pool table is there for sports. Readers of THE PEOPLE and their friends are invited to call on us very soon and frequently.

F. SCHREIBER.

HARTFORD.—Sections having by-laws are requested to send copies of same to Section Hartford, addressed to the undersigned.

SAM G. HARRISON, Box 20, Burdette, Conn.

MASSACHUSETTS.

STONEHAM.—The Town Committee of the Socialist Labor Party of Stoneham, having filed its list of officers and members with the secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and with Jeremiah O'Flaherty, the duly elected secretary of the Party, called in accordance with the election act, a caucus to make nominations for the March town elections. The meeting was called to order by Fred E. Baker, chairman of the town committee. James J. Devlin was elected permanent chairman, and Louis Breitenstein was elected secretary. James Mullin and Chas. Poole were elected tellers. The polls were held open from seven o'clock until midnight. The following were placed in nomination:

Selectman—Fred E. Baker. Overseer of the Poor—Elmer E. Walte. Assessor—John L. White. Sewer Commissioner—Henry Meagher. Trustee of the Public Library—William J. Corcoran, Jr.

School Committee—Francis Macdonald. This is the only caucus held in the town, as it is the custom of the capitalist parties to "bury their differences and unite as a good man." The entry of a party into the field under the political designation recognized by the state authorities has rather shaken the uniters, and this is probably the last year in which party lines will not be drawn.

We expect to poll a large vote, and as the work done has been of the most solid and sound character, it will leave a good effect on the presidential vote next November.

FITCHBURG will have a meeting and try to reorganize Sunday, March 4, at 8 p. m., at G. R. Hall, Charles Kroll, of Providence, R. I., will address the meeting.

LOWELL.—The section meets every Sunday afternoon at 2 p. m. Some comrades from out of town always is present to address the meeting.

LAWRENCE.—The comrades of the Merrimack Valley sections, Lowell, Haverhill, and Groveland, and all comrades in the vicinity who can do so, are invited to gather at the headquarters of Section Lawrence, in Central Building, 115 State street, on Sunday, March 18, to assist in the celebration of the 29th anniversary of the Paris Commune.

J. J. FRENCH, THOMAS MERRILL, JOHN HOWARD, Committee on Arrangements.

NEW JERSEY.

NEWARK CITY CONVENTION.—The City Convention to nominate candidates for Mayor, Councilmen, and other offices, will be held at Headquarters, 78 Springfield avenue, on Saturday, March 3, Convention will be called to order at 8 p. m. All members should be on hand early. By order of County Committee.

A. P. WITTELL, Organizer.

RHODE ISLAND.

PROVIDENCE, R. I. Feb. 26, 1900. To the comrades of the Socialist Labor Party of Rhode Island.

COMRADES.—The Caucus Act of 1899, with which our Party is obliged to comply, makes necessary many changes in the methods we have heretofore employed in making nominations. In order to comply with the law, and at the same time prevent possible thwarting of our purpose by outside influences, it is necessary to hold two conventions. One the regular Party convention, such as we have always held it, and composed of delegates from the sections direct; and the other the legal convention, composed of delegates elected under the provisions of the Caucus Act, where it applies, otherwise by the sections, but on the same basis of representation as that of the Party convention.

On Saturday evening, March 10, at 8 o'clock, the regular State Convention of the Socialist Labor Party of Rhode Island will be held in the Textile Hall, 1935 Westminster street. The business of the evening will be the preparation of the list of candidates for state offices; the election of delegates to Congress; the election of delegates to the National Convention; the adoption of a platform and an address to the voters, and the transaction of such business as may be presented in the interest of the Party.

On Wednesday evening, March 14, at 8 o'clock, the legal State and Congressional conventions of the Socialist Labor Party of Rhode Island will be held in Textile Hall, 1935 Westminster street, for the purpose of nominating state and congressional tickets.

The basis of representation will be as follows: In Providence, delegates will be elected by caucuses subject to Chapter 602 of the General Laws; one delegate for every fifty votes polled within the jurisdiction of the caucus for the party candidates; the highest number of votes in the state; and one additional delegate for every major fraction thereof. In the remainder of the state, the sections shall elect delegates upon the same basis, each section electing the number of delegates the vote within its jurisdiction entitles it to. By order of State Committee.

CHARLES KNOLL, Secretary.

PROVIDENCE.—A special meeting of Section Providence, S. L. P., will be held in Textile Hall, 1935 Westminster street, on Saturday evening, March 10, at 8 o'clock. Business of importance relating to nominations and arrangements for the coming campaign will come up. All comrades are urged to be on hand. By order of City Committee.

A. REISNEROFF, Secretary.

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SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

—OF THE—

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor party of the United States, in Convention assembled, re-asserts the inalienable right of all men to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

With the founders of the American republic, we hold that the purpose of government is to secure every citizen in the enjoyment of this right; but in the light of our social conditions we hold, furthermore, that no such right can be exercised under a system of economic inequality, essentially destructive of life, of liberty and of happiness.

With the founders of this republic, we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people; but in the light of our industrial development we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the people in common.

To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct opposite of our democratic system of politics, can plainly be traced the existence of a privileged class, the corruption of government by that class, the alienation of public property, public franchises and public functions to that class, and the abject dependence of the mightiest of nations upon that class.

Again, through the perversion of democracy to the ends of plutocracy, labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may rule.

Ignorance and misery, with all their concomitant evils, are perpetuated that the people may be kept in bondage.

Science and invention are diverted from their humane purpose to the enslavement of women and children.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor party once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the natural sources of production and in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence.

The time is fast coming, however, when in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalistic combinations on the other hand, shall have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, and upon all other honest citizens, to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor party into a class-conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them by taking possession of the public powers; so that, held together by an indomitable spirit of solidarity under the most trying conditions of the present class struggle, we may put a summary end to that barbarous struggle by the abolition of classes, the restoration of the land and of all the means of production, transportation and distribution to the people as a collective body, and the substitution of the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder; a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

Resolutions.

With a view to immediate improvement in the condition of labor we present the following demands:

1. Reduction in the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.

2. The United States to obtain possession of the mines, railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones and all other means of public transportation and communication; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the Federal Government and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

3. The municipalities to obtain possession of the local railroads, ferries, water works, gas works, electric plants and all industries requiring municipal franchises; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the municipal administration and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

4. The public lands to be declared inalienable. Revocation of all land grants to corporations or individuals, the conditions of which have not been complied with.

5. The United States to have the exclusive right to issue money.

6. Congressional legislation providing for the scientific management of forests and waterways, and prohibiting the waste of the natural resources of the country.

7. Inventions to be free to all; the inventors to be remunerated by the nation.

8. Progressive income tax and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be exempt.

9. School education of all children under fourteen years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books, etc., where necessary.

10. Repeal of all pauper, tramp, conspiracy and sumptuary laws. Unabridged right of combination.

11. Prohibition of the employment of children of school age and the employment of female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality. Abolition of the convict labor contract system.

12. Employment of the unemployed by the public authorities (county, city, state and nation).

13. All wages to be paid in lawful money of the United States. Equalization of woman's wages with those of men where equal service is performed.

14. Laws for the protection of life and limb in all occupations, and an efficient employers' liability law.

15. The people to have the right to propose laws, and to vote upon all measures of importance, according to the referendum principle.

16. Abolition of the veto power of the Executive (national, state and municipal), wherever it exists.

17. Abolition of the United States Senate and all upper legislative chambers.

18. Municipal self-government.

19. Direct vote and secret ballots in all elections. Universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, creed or sex. Election days to be legal holidays. The principle of proportional representation to be introduced.

20. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.

21. Uniform civil and criminal law throughout the United States. Administration of justice to be free of charge. Abolition of capital punishment.

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Office of Praxda, 414 East 71st street. Organizer Section New York, S. L. P., 98 Avenue C.

H. Mahland, cigar store, 2310 Broadway. Eckstein Bros., cigar store, 72 Avenue B.

J. Hammer, drug store, 304 Rivington st. Excelsior Literary Society, 235 E. Broadway. Club Rooms, 16th A.D., 68 Avenue C.